Serial No.: 09/545,137 Filed: April 7, 2000

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 7, 9, and 16 are amended to correct typographical errors. The amendments add no new matter and do not reduce the scope of the respective claims. Applicants acknowledge that claims 3, 6, 7, 15, and 16 are allowed and concur that the subject matter respectively encompassed therein is novel and patentable. The arguments addressing the rejection issued in the Office Action mailed October 17, 2003 are presented in the Amendment and Response filed January 20, 2004, and are referenced here, but not repeated, for brevity.

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CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete Response to the Office Action dated October 17. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the claims as set forth in the Office Action have been addressed and overcome. Applicants further respectfully assert that all claims are in condition for allowance and request that an early notice of allowance be issued. If issues may be resolved through Examiner's Amendment, or clarified in any manner, a call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 745-2461 is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Order Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,

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